NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION

Information Letter

FOR N. C. A. MEMBERS

No. 125 | Washington, D. C. | August 15, 1925

CONTENTS

	Page
Canning crop estimates	41
National Committee for Canned Foods Week	41
Bids asked on canned foods	42
Farmers' purchases of canned foods	42
I. C. C. ruling on overcharge claims	44
Labor laws of the United States	44

Canning Crop Estimates

The Bureau of Agricultural Economics, under date of August 14, has issued revised acreage estimates and forecasts of production for tomatoes, sweet corn and snap beans, and a preliminary estimate of the acreage for kraut, based on condition as reported August 1.

The following table gives the acreage and production of tomatoes, sweet corn and snap beans as reported in 1923 and 1924, and the acreage estimate and forecast of production for 1925.

	Tomatoes	Sweet Corn	Snap Beans
Acreage:			
1925	346,640	396,960	31,950
1924	304,030	298,170	22,890
1923	290,540	250,850	16,720
Production (tons):			
1925	1,637,300	1,044,900	83,500
1924	1,160,700	498,100	42,800
1923	1,234,500	590,600	35,000

The preliminary estimate of acreage of cabbage for kraut is 11,750 acres, as compared with 14,820 in 1924, 17,610 in 1923, 15,610 in 1922, and 7,230 acres in 1921.

The Crop Reporting Board of the Department of Agriculture announced August 10 regarding the apple, peach and pear crops: "As compared with last year, the outlook for the commercial apple crop is relatively better because of the larger crops expected in several leading commercial apple States, particularly in New York, Illinois, Michigan, Idaho, and Washington. The peach and pear crops are each expected to be smaller than they were last year but not smaller than the average during the last five years."

National Committee for Canned Foods Week

The National Canned Foods Week Committee representing the various associations cooperating in the event is now complete, with the following representatives:

National Wholesale Grocers Association: Leslie Lieber and W. J. Tancill, St. Louis, Missouri.

American Wholesale Grocers Association: P. A. Clayton, Memphis, Tennessee.

National Association of Retail Grocers: P. G. Rapp, Chicago, Illinois.

National Chain Store Grocers Association: Alfred H. Beckmann, New York, New York.

National Food Brokers Association: P. J. Murphy, Chicago, Illinois.

Canning Machinery and Supplies Association: Ogden S. Sells, Hoopeston, Illinois.

National Canners Association: Central Division, Royal F. Clark, Beaver Dam, Wisconsin; Eastern Division, James Moore, Rochester, New York; Western Division, James A. Anderson, Morgan, Utah.

Bids Asked on Canned Foods

The Mountain Branch National Organization for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, National Sanitorium, Tennessee, is advertising for subsistence supplies, bids upon which will be received until August 25. The schedule includes canned apples, apricots, cherries, peaches, pears, pineapple and evaporated milk. Copies of this schedule may be obtained by addressing J. C. Donnelly, Treasurer, National Sanitorium, Washington County, Tennessee.

Farmers' Purchases of Canned Foods

The extent to which farmers in thirteen North Central states purchase commercially prepared food products is revealed by an investigation conducted by the Bureau of Market Analysis of the Meredith Publications, Des Moines, the results of which have been issued in pamphlet form. In all, fifty-five thousand signed reports were collected from farmers' families, through the assistance of over 14,000 rural school teachers. Through the courtesy of the Meredith Publications, the Association is enabled to present a summary of the statistics, so far as they relate to canned foods.

As might be expected, there was great variation in the proportion of families that bought different products, and there were striking differences in the purchases of the respective states. The following table shows the percentage of families buying the various canned foods and the average number of cans bought yearly per family:

	Per cent buying	*Average number cans bought yearly per family*
Apricots	15	11.0
Baked Beans	28	16.8
Beans	28	17.7
Beets	3	13.4
Cherries	9	11.3
Corn	57	19.9
Milk	7	56.8
Peaches	21	14.4
Pears	9	12.1
Peas	45	18.2
Pineapple	35	10.4
Prunes	6	11.9
Soup	9	17.1
Spinach	4	12.3
Tomatoes	32	20.8

The foregoing figures relate to the entire territory covered by the investigation (thirteen states). In the following table the percentage of families buying each canned food is shown for each of these states:

	Ill.	Ind.	Iowa	Kan.	Mich.	Minn.	Mo.
Apricots	15%	13%	22%	39%	5%	11%	12%
Baked Beans	32	22	40	38	19	30	16
Beans	42	28	36	34	19	31	18
Beets	2	2	2	6	4	3	2
Cherries	6	3	14	23	5	9	7
Corn	72	55	63	74	43	59	53
Milk	9	10	5	5	11	5	6
Peaches	20	15	30	43	10	18	17
Pears	6	3	14	19	6	13	5
Peas	53	38	55	56	42	48	27
Pineapple	45	33	42	49	23	34	31
Prunes	6	4	7	12	4	5	5
Soup	12	6	9	10	14	8	6
Spinach	7	2	5	7	5	4	4
Tomatoes	30	19	26	58	38	34	29

	Neb.	N.D.	Ohio	Okla.	S.D.	Wis.	Tot.
Apricots	22%	21%	9%	23%	26%	4%	15%
Baked Beans	35	31	27	16	38	28	28
Beans	28	34	17	18	36	28	28
Beets	3	4	3	3	4	2	3
Cherries	12	22	5	13	26	5	9
Corn	60	61	44	61	65	51	57
Milk	4	4	10	6	4	5	7
Peaches	31	36	17	27	40	10	21
Pears	16	25	4	12	26	7	9
Peas	57	45	38	27	56	51	45
Pineapple	45	50	32	32	53	19	35
Prunes	7	7	4	14	10	4	6
Soup	8	9	6	8	11	9	9
Spinach	4	5	4	5	6	3	4
Tomatoes	33	69	20	59	46	26	32

As previously mentioned, the variation from state to state in the percentage of families buying the different kinds of canned foods is striking. The following table brings this out by showing the lowest and highest percentages for each product, and the states ranking lowest and highest:

	Lowest		Highest	
Apricots	4%	(Wis.)	39%	(Kan.)
Baked Beans	16%	(Mo., Okla.)	40%	(Iowa)
Beans	17%	(Ohio)	42%	(Ill.)
Beets	2%	(Ill., Ind., Iowa, Mo., Wis.)	6%	(Kan.)
Cherries	3%	(Ind.)	26%	(S.D.)
Corn	43%	(Mich.)	74%	(Kan.)
Milk	4%	(Neb., N. D., S. D.)	11%	(Mich.)
Peaches	10%	(Mich., Wis.)	43%	(Kan.)
Pears	3%	(Ind.)	26%	(S.D.)
Peas	27%	(Mo., Okla.)	57%	(Neb.)
Pineapple	19%	(Wis.)	50%	(N.D.)
Prunes	4%	(Ind., Mich., Ohio, Wis.)	14%	(Okla.)
Soup	6%	(Ind., Mo., Ohio)	14%	(Mich.)
Spinach	2%	(Ind.)	7%	(Ill., Kan.)
Tomatoes	19%	(Ind.)	69%	(N.D.)

I. C. C. Ruling on Overcharge Claims

The Interstate Commerce Commission has adopted the following conference ruling:

Upon inquiries as to the effect of the decision rendered on June 8, 1925, by the Supreme Court of the United States in Wm. Danzer & Co., Inc., v. Gulf & Ship Island R. R. Co., the Commission construes that decision, considered in connection with the decision in Kansas City So. Ry. v. Wolf, 261 U. S. 133, as prohibiting common carriers subject to the interstate commerce act from paying straight overcharge claims which were barred by statute at or prior to the amendment of June 7, 1924, to paragraph (3) of section 16 of said act, and as prohibiting the Commission from awarding reparation on any claim which was barred by statute at or prior to the date of that amendment.

Labor Laws of the United States

The Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U. S. Department of Labor has revised its publication of labor legislation of the United States. The book contains the substance, and in many instances the full text, of all existing labor legislation except that relating to workmen's compensation, which is incorporated in a separate series of bulletins. Copies of the bulletin are sold by the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., at $1.60 each.